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in this book. One practical point of importance should be noted by all who are interested in the study of municipal government; the residents of the South End House believe that the sphere of municipal activity should be extended to include all the more important economic and social questions which directly affect the inhabitants of the South End district. Furthermore the tendency toward centralization in city administration is deprecated as depriving the people of opportunities for practice and exercise in self-government.

Dr. Strong's book is somewhat less optimistic in tone. The author believes that, while the material progress of the nation during the last century has been simply marvelous, intellectual and moral progress has by no means kept the same pace. The resulting disproportion bodes ill for the future. The essential weakness in Dr. Strong's argument is that he provides no adequate basis of comparison between material and moral progress. Dr. Strong must admit that in the abolition of slavery and serfdom, the development of democratic and humanitarian ideals and in similar changes which have taken place during this century the moral progress of the world has been the greatest in modern times. Then too, much apparently material progress may mean intellectual and moral progress, though not so classed. And it is certainly idle to compare material and moral progress in gross, in the hope of reaching any valid conclusion. By emphasizing the materialism of the age he is led to ignore the value and direct advantage which lie in the simple fact of human association and organization and his proposed remedies are directed for the most part toward individual education and regeneration. The chief value of the book lies in the author's keen appreciation of the dangers immediately confronting our municipal life.

In Professor Henderson's book the historical development and present status of social settlements are set forth in a most satisfactory way. Especially valuable are the details regarding the various kinds of work carried on in different local environments. It is unfortunate that the author has not given us a discussion of the different forms of organization which appeal to different nationalities in our large cities; the size of the book perhaps rendered the discussion of such a question impracticable.

FRANCIS H. MCLEAN.

*New York City.*

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*Outline of Practical Sociology, with special reference to American conditions.* By CARROLL D. WRIGHT, LL. D. Vol. I of American Citizen Series. Pp. xxv, 431. Price, \$2.00. New York, London and Bombay: Longmans, Green & Co., 1899.

Sociology, according to Dr. Wright, is a study of institutions. General sociology includes also the history of institutions, that is,

their origin and progress. Practical sociology, however, is confined mainly to a study of present institutions, and in this particular instance to a study of the institutions of the United States.

The "Outline of Practical Sociology" is a suitable introduction to the series of which it forms a part. The outline embraces in its scope a brief view of all of our institutions, which are classified as social and political. The word sociology becomes a convenient term to cover anything which the writer may wish to discuss. The volume before us is divided into eight parts of which the first, the Basis of Practical Sociology, is a statistical study of the population of the United States according to distribution, status and nativity. A brief introductory chapter in this part contains a definition of the science of social relations, a limitation of the scope of practical sociology and a short bibliography. Special bibliographies are given at the head of each chapter and these, taken with the practical suggestions to students and teachers contained in the editor's preface render the work a good text-book for either class-room or private study.

Part II contains a description of the units of social organism. Students of sociology who have tired of biological analogies may regret that the word "organism" was not replaced by the less metaphorical term "organization," but, in general, there can be no strong criticism of the author's use of terms. The social units are the family, the church and voluntary clubs and societies of all sorts, while the political units are the state and its subdivisions. In Part III, Dr. Wright returns to a discussion of population viewed from the standpoint of public policy; here the author gives a study of immigration with reference to the religious, political and industrial distribution of immigrants. This is followed by a consideration of the benefits and disadvantages of immigration and by a critical study of the proposals for the regulation and restriction of immigration. Part III also contains chapters on the rural and urban population, and the special problems of city life, *e. g.* water supply, transit, police, slums, housing of the poor, etc. In these chapters, and, in fact, throughout the book, Dr. Wright's tone is one of wholesome optimism.

In Part IV, Questions of the Family, there are chapters on Marriage and Divorce, Education and the Employment of Women and Children. Part V, on the Laboring System, contains an historical introduction and chapters on the appliances of the modern labor system, relations of employer and employed, and strikes and lockouts. Here and in Part VI, Social Well-Being [the accumulation of wealth, poverty, the relation of art to social comfort, etc.], the author is at his best. Statistics and history have been well combined and the reader is made to see that the modern labor system is an evolution from as well

as an improvement upon former systems. In the chapter on poverty a discussion of its causes, of the forms of relief, of organized charities and of child saving is given. The conclusion reached by Dr. Wright in regard to the growth of wealth is that the rich are growing richer and the poor are becoming better off because of the fact that social amelioration proceeds along all lines. Modern competition, it is repeatedly intimated, is not physical but intellectual, and in its higher and more permanent planes it is surcharged with a sympathy that promotes both morality and the improvement of human conditions.

Part VII, the Defense of Society, treats of criminology, penology, the temperance question and the regulation of associations, while Part VIII discusses social remedies. It may be questioned whether this last part might not have been more appropriately placed in another part of the book. The author's eminent fitness for his work and his intimate acquaintance with the phenomena described are shown upon every page. The classification of material and the cautions and tentative statement of his conclusions in every part of his work are most commendable. The Outline probably contains a greater amount of information and more carefully considered statements than any other work on the subject, and it will no doubt find an extensive use throughout the country.

ISAAC A. LOOS.

*State University of Iowa.*